

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3891

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016

Monitoring of Rural Schemes

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently decided to form a special cadre of community people to carry out social audit and monitoring the implementation of rural development schemes and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the people's representatives are associated with Monitoring Committees reviewing the implementation of the various rural development schemes with particular reference to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in their constituencies and if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there is also a need for online recording and monitoring of assets to check leakages and effective mapping of terrain for future developmental works particularly works allocated under MGNREGS and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the progress of geo-tagging of all assets created under the MGNREGS as on 30 November, 2016?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a): In pursuance of Section 17(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005, Gram Sabha is required to conduct regular social audits of all the MGNREGA works under the scheme taken up within the Gram Panchayat. The Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) notified the Audit of Scheme Rules, 2011 under Section (1) of Section 24 of the Act for laying down the methodology and principles of conducting social audits.

Each state is mandated to form independent social audit units, which are financially and administratively independent of the implementing agency. The Ministry is providing Special Financial Assistance to these units for engaging minimum core staff. Recently, the Ministry of Rural Development has rolled-out a mandatory 30-day certification course on social audits for the resource persons engaged at the State, District and block level.

The resource persons engaged at the village level as social auditors are from the local community, are above 18, semi-literate, whose family members have worked in MGNREGA, youth from associated networks such as SHG members, community based organisations, Bharat Nirman Volunteers.

(b): The people's representatives are nominated in District Development Co-ordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) which is constituted in June 2016 replacing the District and Vigilance and Monitoring Committee with a view to fulfill the objective of ensuring a better coordination among all the elected representatives in Parliament, State Legislatures and Local Governments (Panchayati Raj Institutions/Municipal Bodies) for efficient and time bound development of districts in the country.

(c): The Ministry has introduced a Fixed Asset Register (FAR) which is a permanent record of each asset in a physical form. Till date 2,26,756 Gram Panchayats are maintaining the FAR.

To address the twin objectives of 'Planning' and 'Accountability', Ministry of Rural Development has designed a unique solution by integrating space technology and asset tracking management solution under the project GeoMGNREGA with a vision to make geotagged asset data under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA transparent and available in the public domain accessible to all. The GeoMGNREGA was rolled out in public domain on 30th November, 2016 and is accessible on the website <http://www.nrega.nic.in/>.

The objective is to create a Geographical Information System (GIS) solution to visualize, analyze and explore such asset related data and also manage them more effectively along with better understanding of the impact.

(d): State/UT-wise number of geotags available in public domain as part of GeoMGNREGA are given in the Annexure.
